



TPC

PATENT APPLICATION

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

OTSUKI, et al

Group Art Unit: 1751

Application No.: 10/768,151

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: February 2, 2004

Atty. Dkt. No.: 026035-00008

For: POLYMER ELECTROLYTE, PROTON CONDUCTIVE MEMBRANE AND  
MEMBRANE-ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

August 11, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$130.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

4. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,



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CMM:mso

Enclosures: PTO-1449 Form; Search Report; References (4)



Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
026035-00008

SERIAL NO.  
10/768,151

### LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT  
OTSUKI, et al.

FILING DATE  
February 2, 2004

GROUP  
1751

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	3,484,293	12/16/1969	R.B. HODGDON, Jr.			
	AB	5,403,675	4/4/1995	Naoya OGATA, et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO PART.
	AG	EP 1 245 554 A1	10/2/2002	EPO			XX
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

#### OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM	O. SAVADOGO, "Emerging Membranes for Electrochemical Systems: (I) Solid Polymer Electrolyte Membranes for Fuel Cell Systems", March 10, 1998, Pgs. 47-66
AN	
AO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.